



Department of Justice

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Eastern District of California

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MODESTO MAN SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN GOLD AND POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that MICHAEL PARREIRA REGO, 26, of Modesto, California was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge William B. Shubb to five years in prison and four years of supervised release for possession of methamphetamine and possession of gold nuggets that were stolen from the U.S. Mail. He pleaded guilty September 8, 2008.

This case is the product of an investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Modesto Police Department, the Stockton Police Department, and San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the case, REGO was driving through Modesto in the evening on Monday, January 7, 2008, when a uniformed Modesto Police Officer pulled him over for driving on a suspended license. At that time, REGO threw from his vehicle gold nuggets and coins and a bag containing methamphetamine packaged for sale. The gold nuggets and coins were later identified as items stolen from U.S. Mail registry bags.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the case, REGO was driving through Modesto in the evening on Monday, January 7, 2008, when a uniformed Modesto Police Officer pulled him over for driving on a suspended license. At that time, REGO threw from his vehicle gold nuggets and coins and a bag containing methamphetamine packaged for sales. The gold nuggets and coins were later identified as items stolen from U.S. Mail registry bags. REGO also was found to have a variety of burglary tools in his vehicle.

REGO forfeited \$2,685 in currency found on his person at the time of his arrest. He was taken into custody at the conclusion of today's hearing.

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